

that he has chosen to undertake and execute upon ought to serve as a source of inspiration for every Member of this legislative body. Just as Martin Luther King once said: "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

I thank Rabbi Hofstedter for all that he and the members of the Dirshu continue to do to advance Jewish scholarship and education in the face of the evil that has been perpetrated on their community in recent weeks. May God bless them all. May God bless the United States of America.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF SERVICE OF W.L. PATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WEBER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the exemplary life of one Mr. W.L. Pate from Beaumont, Texas.

Words cannot adequately express how deeply saddened Brenda and I were to hear of W.L. Pate's passing just the other day. As I think back, Madam Speaker, we are hard-pressed to remember anyone who gave more to their community than W.L. did to his—or ours, for that matter.

The list of W.L.'s considerable accomplishments and contributions are far too numerous to be listed here, but here are just a few.

W.L. was a two-term mayor of Beaumont. He was an Army veteran and had 14 years of service as a city councilman. W.L. was the past president of the Texas Association of Mayors, Council Members and Commissioners. W.L. was on the board of the Texas Municipal League and served as TML president for Region 16.

Never missing a chance to give back, W.L. assisted the District 14 office every single year with military service academy nominations, and he was good at it and proud to be able to do it.

I am particularly proud of W.L.'s passion project in recent years. W.L. was the driving force behind obtaining the Presidential Medal of Freedom that was posthumously awarded to Babe Didrikson Zaharias, a fantastic female athlete, given by President Donald Trump.

I recognize and thank W.L. Pate for his servant leadership. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his family and friends, especially his daughters, Jennifer and Suzanne.

This is a tremendous loss for Beaumont and the Nation. W.L.'s remarkable legacy of service and sacrifice is the epitome of what it means to be a great American. Our country would be well-served to have many more with such a servant's heart.

Rest in peace, my friend. W.L. Pate, you done good.

#### REMEMBERING THE INCREDIBLE LIFE OF LOUISE DUNLAP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the incredible life of Louise Dunlap.

A native of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Louise was a dedicated advocate for coal communities, our environment, and especially the reclamation of our historic abandoned mine lands.

Louise's career began with the grassroots, advocating for more support for the environment and Pennsylvania's mine lands. In 1972, Louise cofounded the Environmental Policy Institute and the Environmental Policy Center. There, she spent years working to pass legislation to support mine reclamation in Pennsylvania and was an important advocate for the passage of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977.

This law created the first Federal standards on the reclamation of new and subsequent surface mining. Importantly, it also established the Abandoned Mine Land Trust, which was created to provide consistent funding for the reclamation of coal mines that were abandoned prior to the law's enactment in 1977.

For over 40 years, this trust has been the central funding source for the reclamation of abandoned mine lands in 20 States, generating over \$11.6 billion since its creation by Congress.

Beginning in 2004, she joined the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds, where she continued her life's work. In 2006, she again played a key advocacy role when Congress authorized the AML for an additional 15 years.

This September, the Abandoned Mine Land Fund is set to expire. The trust must be reauthorized in order to continue opportunities in funding to clean up these un-reclaimed lands, not only in Pennsylvania but around the country. Congress has the opportunity to do right by our coal communities by reauthorizing this fund and also expediting the release of the existing balance.

Reauthorizing the AML was a project close to Louise's heart. She fought for coal communities up until her final days. She spent the last few weeks continuing to secure support for the reauthorization of the Abandoned Mine Land Fund.

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In Pennsylvania, there are over 5,500 miles of streams polluted due to legacy mining, and over 280,000 acres remain toxic. Nationwide, the unfunded liabilities exceed \$12 billion, with \$5 billion in Pennsylvania alone. Louise made it her mission to work toward restoring these areas.

My district alone has the most abandoned mine land in the country. I understand the urgency in reauthorizing

the AML fund, which is why I am an original cosponsor of the RECLAIM Act and the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Amendments of 2021 with fellow Pennsylvanian, Representative MATT CARTWRIGHT. We both worked closely with Louise on this act.

Louise Dunlap was an inspiring force as she spent her life advocating to reclaim and revitalize former mining communities. She was a friend and marshaled key legislation victories over the span of a 50-year career.

In honor of her legacy, it is important that we continue her life's work and continue to support our historic coal communities.

My heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Louise Dunlap. She was so fiercely passionate, and she will be greatly missed.

#### HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL WILBUR L. "W.L." PATE, JR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my dear friend of more than 65 years, Lieutenant Colonel Wilbur L. "W.L." Pate, Jr.

W.L. and I grew up together in Beaumont, Texas, where he was better known by his nickname, "Bubba." We became close friends playing football together at Austin Junior High School, and eventually, my family moved across town, which, unfortunately, sent us to different high schools. I still remember the football game in 1965 when French High School—led by W.L. Pate at quarterback—dealt me and my team, Forest Park High School Trojans, a close loss.

The final score of 8-7 stung, but I couldn't help but be proud of the skill and sportsmanship demonstrated by W.L. and his French High Buffalos.

A year later, W.L. and I both ended up at Lamar University in Beaumont and served in the same unit in the Army Reserves, as well. In 1969, he was commissioned as an infantry officer, and in 1978, he graduated from Command and General Staff College.

After leaving the military as a lieutenant colonel in 1994, he dove into another form of public service—serving his community on Beaumont's City Council as mayor pro tempore, and on several boards, including the Beaumont Rotary Club, Better Business Bureau, the American Legion, Lamar Institute of Technology, and many more.

One of Bubba's most significant accomplishments was his advocacy for the late Babe Didrikson Zaharias to be awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Babe was from our hometown of Beaumont, Texas, and was a gold medal Olympian, and later, professional golfer, winning ten LPGA major tournaments. She is considered by many to be one of the world's greatest female athletes.

I was honored to attend the White House ceremony with W.L. when he